DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 322 270 UD 027 570

AUTHOR Sutton, Donald; Baker, Ralph F.
TITLE Oakland Crack Task Force: A Portrait of Community Mobilization.
INSTITUTION Western Center for Drug-Free Schools and Communities.
SPONS AGENCY Department of Education, Washington, DC.
PUB DATE Jun 90
CONTRACT S188A80003
NOTE 55p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS At Risk Persons; Black Family; *Community Programs; *Crack; Drug Abuse; *Drug Addiction; *Drug Rehabilitation; *Family Programs; Program Descriptions; Urban Programs
IDENTIFIERS *California (Oakland)

ABSTRACT

The Oakland Crack Task Force (OCTF) was created by concerned citizens to combat the problems caused by crack cocaine and ensure the future existence of the family, especially the black family, using community resources and no outside funding. Goals are to educate the community about crack; identify and access prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery resources; and implement activities designed to enhance and strengthen cultural and family values. The following standing committees are responsible for program implementation: (1) education and special events; (2) prenatal; (3) support groups; (4) organizational development; and (5) youth. Program activities have included the following: (1) monthly community seminars; (2) addict support groups; (3) a citywide "crack summit"; and (4) youth programs. The highly successful monthly seminars are held at various churches and include entertainment, free food, and child care. Future programming will emphasize youth, education and community, foster care and extended family members, and advocacy. The following materials are appended: (1) an organizational chart; (2) seven posters advertising seminars; (3) six newspaper articles reporting program events; and (4) agendas for a community seminar and the citywide summit. (FMW)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

UD 027 570

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE
A PORTRAIT OF COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Donald Sutton
Oakland Crack Task Force

and

Ralph F. Baker
Western Center for Drug-Free Schools and Communities
Far West Laboratory
for Educational Research and Development

June 1990

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

This document is a result of the efforts of many dedicated people including Reginald Lyles (Task Force Chairperson), Issac Slaughter, M.D. (Director, West Oakland Mental Health Center), Wilma Brown (West Oakland Mental Health Center), Vicki Ertle and Bonnie Lurie (Western Center for Drug-Free Schools and Communities).

This publication is based on work sponsored wholly or in part by the U.S. Department of Education under Cooperative Agreement Number S188A80003. The content of this publication does not necessarily reflect the views of the Department or any other agency of the U.S. Government.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Oakland Crack Task Force gratefully acknowledges its dedicated members and the following organization and individual partners who have contributed to the success of this vital prevention and educational program for the citizens of Oakland during the past year:

CITY OF OAKLAND

Mayor Lionel J. Wilson
Oakland City Council
Oakland Police Department
Police Chief George T. Hart
Police Sgt. Bob Crawford
Beat Health Program
Oakland City Manager's Office
Office of Community Development
Commission on the Disabled
Department of Parks and Recreation
Oakland Interagency Council on Drugs
Councilman Leo Bazile
Councilman Wilson Riles, Jr.

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor Don Perata
Supervisor Warren Widener
County Health Agency
Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs
Director Dana Kueffner
Probation Department
Alameda County Superior Court
Highland Hospital
Social Services Department

OAKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent Pete Mesa
Oakland Education Association

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy
Assemblyman Elihu Harris
California Prevention Resource Center

FEDERAL AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

Drug Enforcement Administration
Special Agent Robert C. McGuire
U.S. Attorney Joseph Russionello
Western Center for Drug Free Schools
and Communities
Congressman Ronald V. Dellums

CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Beth Eden Baptist Church
Downs Memorial United Methodist Church
Allen Temple Baptist Church
Masjidul Waritheen Muslim Cultural Center
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church
Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church
St. Columba Catholic Church
First Morningstar Baptist Church
Love Center
Center of Hope Community Church
True Vine Baptist Church
Glide Memorial United Methodist Church
Rev. Cecil Williams
Rev. J. Alfred Smith, Sr.
Rev. J. Alfred Smith, Jr.
Rev. Douglass E. Fitch
Rev. Warner Brown
Rev. James Hopkins

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Richard Allen Institute
Volunteers of America
Center for Attitudinal Healing
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
West Oakland Health Center
West Oakland Mental Health Center
East Oakland Cocaine Recovery Center
Bay Area Urban League
Bay Area Black United Fund
Spanish Speaking Unity Council
Narcotics Education League
Oakland Union of the Homeless
National Council of Negro Women
Mandela House
Haight Ashbury Free Clinic
East Oakland Youth Development Center
AIDS Project of the East Bay
Native American Health Center
United Seniors of Oakland
Family Builders by Adoption
Urban Health Study
Bay Area Black Media Coalition
Black Infant Mortality Forum
Castlemont Corridor Project
Just Say No International
Salvation Army
KSOL FM Radio
KDIA AM Radio

IN THE BEGINNING

The Oakland Crack Task Force (OCTF) was spawned from a core group of concerned citizens who rejected the standard notions of such a task force being unfeasible or impossible to create. It is the story of a group of people who refused to take no for an answer, and made a strong commitment to solving their own problems in their own back yard, with their own resources and no outside funding.

From a broad-based pool of talent, expertise and enthusiasm, this group brought all the significant players in the community to the table -- ministers, law enforcement, politicians, health providers, businesses, senior citizens, youth, and most importantly, anyone who wanted to participate and help.

In a mere 11 months, the group accomplished what other task forces have taken years to complete; they reached over 8,000 Oakland citizens with information on substance abuse, AIDS and family addiction; they provided information on how to access services, support groups and treatment; and showed people how to join in on a real community effort to strengthen and enhance the family structure.

In addition, if there were no services or referrals available where there was a need for help, the Oakland Crack Task Force either created a mode of assistance or at least spurred other agencies into becoming responsive to those needs.

The strong sense of hope, faith, strength and spirituality this group has shown should serve as an inspiration to all people who come together seeking solutions and relief from a common problem.

The City of Oakland has been in crisis for some time. The abuse of drugs and alcohol -- especially that of crack cocaine -- has risen to an alarming rate. In the past ten years Oakland has experienced a 2200% increase in the number of drug-related cases in Juvenile Court. The drug culture has affected over 70% of the students in grades 7-12 in some form.

Substance abuse problems are not, however, limited to youth. Of the estimated 36,000 drug users in the city of Oakland, 40% are estimated to be women. Thirty percent of women who deliver babies at Highland County Hospital test positive for drugs. In addition, 70% of all emergency room cases at Highland involve acts of violence that are drug-related. Arrests for narcotics use surged to almost 13,000 in 1989. Eighty percent of those arrests involved cocaine.

Presently, there are no publicly funded treatment services for adolescents, and the need for massive education and prevention services is critical.

It was from this problem ridden community that in April, 1989, some 35 Oakland citizens crossed the Bay Bridge to San Francisco to attend "Death of a Race," a

national conference on crack cocaine co-sponsored by Glide Memorial Methodist Church and the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention. At the end of this three-day conference, participants were challenged to return to their communities and "spread the word against drugs and crack."

At this point, many citizen groups return to their respective home bases full of enthusiasm and ideas that were never actualized. Usually a variety of circumstances cause such ad hoc groups to self-destruct, including lack of leadership, no group consensus or plan of action, hidden agendas or denial on the part of some members, or setting goals that may sound impressive but are unrealistic.

This was not so with the group of 35 Oaklanders who returned from the San Francisco crack conference and established the Oakland Crack Task Force exactly one week later.

The Oakland Crack Task force was born out of the need to address problems related to crack cocaine and to help insure the future existence of the family structure, particularly within Oakland's inner city. Organizers saw its primary purpose as ensuring the community's survival in the midst of escalating use and abuse of crack cocaine. The mission of the Oakland Crack Task force was set, not by the membership, but by the dire circumstances that existed within the city.

The Task Force's initial meeting was held on April 29, 1989 and was attended by approximately 79 people. Those in attendance included educators, people in recovery, health care personnel, social workers, journalists, business professionals, local politicians, parents, and just "plain folks," including some who were unemployed and homeless. They met at the west Oakland Mental Health Center to discuss what they could do as a group to combat crack cocaine.

These individuals came together with a focus; they were angry, fearful, unhappy and troubled at what seemed to them at the time an insurmountable problem. They wanted to devote their time, energy and resources to finding a solution. From its inception, the OCTF demonstrated the ability to get things done. While there were no financial resources for the group in the beginning, human resources were abundant. Everyone was eager to talk, listen, learn, and work. As the group worked toward its common objectives, individual strengths and weaknesses never became an issue. Within 11 months, the OCTF would reach some 8,000 Oakland citizens through its grass roots community prevention and intervention campaign.

The first meeting was to include a significant moment for the Task Force. After hearing from individuals who had attended the National Conference, the suggestion was made to take time for each individual to introduce him or herself, state his or her organization affiliation, if any, and tell what he or she could bring to the group, with emphasis on interest and enthusiasm. Hearing each person's background revealed to

the group a wealth of talent, services and programs that already existed in the community and could be drawn on later. This sharing of information also allowed people to vent their frustrations, anger and fear. It helped move the group toward a consensus of purpose and toward a genuine respect and concern for each other.

The participants at this meeting quickly agreed to address problems related to crack cocaine -- from infants born addicted, neglected children, battered wives and loved ones, to the spread of AIDS to teenagers. All segments of the community had to be involved, including law enforcement, educational and religious institutions, prevention programs, health services and treatment facilities, elected officials, senior citizens, and youth. Representatives from all of these groups were already present. The challenge for the Task Force was to channel the energy, talent, and concerns of those present.

The problems that the community faced had become so severe that the task force readily agreed that the focus should be on the family -- specifically, the Black family, which seemed to suffer disproportionately from crack's effects. While specific goals were yet somewhat undefined, everyone agreed community awareness was top priority. Using knowledge as a primary weapon, the group wanted to provide broad-based education and prevention programs to the citizens of Oakland.

Through much discussion, the group made an early decision to let the organization evolve naturally instead of developing a rigid structure. At the first meeting, solutions and ideas were brainstormed and everyone was given a chance to speak. The need to be flexible, patient and open to the ideas of the membership was stressed from the beginning.

Two people were chosen to serve in the key positions of chairpersons to quickly move the group toward a more formal structure of a task force. Next a secretary and treasurer were selected and the following standing committees were formed:

Education and Special Events: responsible for developing the "community seminar" format, program and logistics.

Prenatal: responsible for advocating prenatal care strategies for women affected by substance abuse while pregnant.

Support Groups: responsible for facilitating the formation of support groups for families, grandparents and other individuals affected by family addiction.

Organizational Development: responsible for planning a future structure for expanding activities.

Youth Committee: responsible for planning peer prevention activities and providing entertainment through drama and other presentations.

The Committees met monthly and the entire OCTF held a general meeting the first Saturday of each month. There were no closed doors; all meetings were open to the community.

The early meetings focused on education and trust building. One of the keys to the success of the group has been its members' ability to learn from each other. Membership comes from a wealth of resources: private and public agencies, health and human service professions, churches, and people in all stages of recovery from family addictions. During the general and committee meetings, knowledge was shared and ideas and beliefs were broadened. Problems and solutions were brainstormed, discussed, and prioritized. This process did much to provide a safe and comfortable environment for those present. People were not afraid to speak. Not surprisingly, attendance grew at each meeting and the care of concerned citizens and community-based organizations expanded week by week.

OFF AND RUNNING

A task force by definition must be goal oriented, and the OCTF quickly established what they considered to be attainable goals. By the end of the second general meeting the OCTF had their plan of action: a series of community seminars to be held in each of the seven city council districts followed by a city-wide "summit" at the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center in the spring. The decision was made to stage a community seminar once a month. The stated objectives of the seminars were to:

* educate the community about crack;
* identify and access prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery resources; and
* implement activities designed to enhance and encourage African-American culture and family values.

The seminars were centered around a series of workshops. An overview of the Task Force and the seminar agenda was presented and morning and afternoon workshops were offered. Topics included:

- The Role of the Church in Fighting Addiction;
- Addiction, A Family Problem;
- Peer Pressure and Drug Use;
- Crack: History, Symptoms, Effects and Treatment;
- The Black Male: Problems, Potential, Solutions;
- Crack Babies;
- AIDS in the Black Community; and
- Legal Issues in the War on Crack.

The seminar concluded with panels offering possible solutions and ideas for future action.

A resource fair was featured at each seminar, providing information about existing prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery resources throughout the city. Participants were also given opportunities to learn about and join support groups.

The seminars were also designed for enjoyment. Entertainment, free food, child care, inspirational messages, and music were unique features. A Task Force motto also emerged with this plan of action: "Drugs are not a Part of our Heritage." The slogan began appearing on tee-shirts, fliers, and even on the sides of neighborhood

liquor and grocery stores. Phantom artists painted several sides of stores with cocaine slavery murals.

From July, 1989 until January 1990, the Oakland Crack Task Force staged six community seminars. Each standing committee was in charge of specific tasks. Workshop facilitators, program moderators, speakers and entertainers were generally recruited from neighborhoods where seminars took place. An OCTF committee member would secure workshop facilitators and those designated persons would then be in charge of finding local citizens to participate in their particular workshop panels. This decentralized organizational structure worked well for the group. The committees were empowered to act independently in specific locales and the steering committee was able to plan ahead for the next event.

The first seminar was held July 15 at Beth Eden Baptist Church, the oldest Black church in Oakland. Beth Eden is located in west Oakland and is surrounded by housing projects near the earthquake torn Cypress structure freeway, which have the lowest per capita income population in the state of California. This seminar was attended by over 400 people.

The Beth Eden seminar had no formalized budget, however lack of money was never an obstacle for the OCTF. Members came together and donated their time and services. Fliers and programs were printed by members' organizations and groups,

food was donated and prepared by women from the church, and all presenters at the workshops were volunteers.

The decision to hold the seminars at churches was critical to the success of the OCTF. Group members belonged to various churches and recognized the church as an influential force and neutral meeting place of the Black community. Task Force members also believed that significant social and political changes in Black communities have historically come from within the church. While Task Force activities were not religious in a traditional sense, the church was definitely used as a means of drawing people together to begin both the spiritual healing and community awareness the Task Force advocated. The OCTF has established good working relationships with over 21 Oakland churches.

Community recognition of Task Force activities was growing. To keep the momentum, members strived for high visibility. The group staged press conferences, appeared on radio and television, and made presentations to the Oakland City Council, Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and state Senate Committees. Members spoke at churches, senior groups, businesses, the chamber of commerce, recovery homes, treatment centers, homeless centers and wherever they were asked. Members also mobilized and distributed fliers to neighborhood groups and walked the streets and shopping areas asking people to join their efforts.

Local politicians were also becoming increasingly aware of the OCTF and their community oriented activities. Funding sources began approaching the Task Force to offer help. This unique occurrence resulted in both the Alameda County Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs and the Oakland City Council donating funds to the Oakland Crack Task Force. Part of the money paid for a program coordinator, the remaining seminars and summit, as well as printing and food costs.

Six hundred people attended the second conference held August 26 at Allen Temple Baptist Church in east Oakland. Allen Temple is one of the city's largest churches and is known for community activism. It is located in what the Oakland Police Department likes to call a "war zone." This area has more arrests for drug-related incidents than any in the city. Downs United Methodist Church in north Oakland was the site of the third seminar on September 30, and the attendance was estimated at 500. Each seminar followed the same format, but while the procedure was the same, the faces were different. The seminars were truly tailored to location and the attendants were introduced to services, support, and concerned neighbors located close to their homes.

In the midst of staging these events, the Task Force continued its education in outreach activities. General meetings were still held on the first Saturday of every month, and committees met bi-monthly or as needed. The organization was also evolving into a powerful advocacy group and successfully intervened on several

community issues pertaining to both personnel and county health policy. Their political base was continually broadened by the constant influx of new members and organizations.

A key element in the OCTF's plan had been the formation of community support groups. The seminar workshops quickly demonstrated the need for people to talk and to seek support. Given a safe forum to discuss personal issues, people began to feel less isolated and were open to new ways of handling old problems. From the onset the OCTF felt the support groups made major efforts towards community healing and took care to design the groups to meet existing needs.

The following support groups were offered:Recovering Addicts; Grandparents and Relatives of Addicts; Seniors; Women; Pregnant Women; Mental Health; Youth; and Spanish Speaking Groups. Many OCTF members are trained in group facilitation and are qualified to lead support groups. New members were trained by the Support Group committee to lead new groups. The support group committee meets monthly to evaluate activities and to do continued training. As of May, 1990, 22 groups were meeting in churches, community centers and private homes. This support group network has been a cornerstone in the OCTF's struggle to educate and sensitize the community to recovery.

Using community resources already in place has been a trademark of the Task Force. Meetings with existing groups and organizations are held on a regular basis. The group has placed an emphasis on not taking anything away from an existing service or structure. True networking has resulted, allowing organizations to stay specialized and to coordinate and implement their own activities under the larger umbrella of the Task Force. For example, the Social Service Director of Highland Hospital who works with mothers addicted to crack cocaine was asked to head the Prenatal Committee. A grandmother, who is now retired from the mental health field, is in charge of developing support groups. The Education and Special Events coordinators are a coordinator of a regional prevention program and a community activist in alcohol and drug issues. The Information and Resource persons are the coordinator of a state funded resource center and a county drug and alcohol worker.

When examining substance abuse issues, many people consider youth a major part of the "problem." The OCTF was determined to make youth a major part of the solution. Young people were recruited from elementary and high schools, colleges and street academies, and then matched with adults who were involved with planning events. At each of the seminars youths were given specific responsibilities to ensure strong participation, including co-facilitation of workshops. Young people were also responsible for developing mottos, organizational banners, tee-shirts and buttons.

The third seminar was held at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in east Oakland. This community is probably the most racially diverse section of the city in which the Task Force worked. Over 30 languages are spoken within a five mile radius and at this juncture the Task Force realized that it must become a bit more diverse in its approach. The group decided its focus should be broadened to include issues that affect not only Black families, but all families. At Mt. Calvary interpreters were provided for the workshops in three languages.

The November 18, Mt. Calvary seminar was different in another important respect. The original date had to be postponed due to the October 17 earthquake experienced in the Bay Area. As was with other communities, Oakland was severely impacted by this catastrophe. The OCTF quickly mobilized to assist the American Red Cross and helped at the collapsed Cypress freeway structure. Existing support groups were expanded to help earthquake victims, and grief counseling networks were created.

The next seminar was December 16 at Masjidul Waritheen, a Muslim Cultural Center located in east Oakland. According to Task Force members, this was the most exciting and moving seminar. For the first time in the history of Oakland, Christians, Blacks, Whites, Latinos, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders gathered together in a Muslim temple to address a common problem and to adhere to Muslim customs. Over 600 people attended.

The final community seminar was held January 20, 1990 at the Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church located at the edge of the Oakland Hills. This was the first attempt to bring together primarily White residents of the Oakland Hills and minorities in the flatlands. There was no drop in attendance and over 400 people participated.

THE BIG DRAW

In December, 1989 planning began for the spring "crack summit." A special committee was formed within the Education and Special Events Committee to oversee the implementation of the summit. A chairman was appointed and all Task Force members were asked to help. Care was taken to include citizens from all aspects of the community. The specific committee met weekly from December to March.

The summit committee quickly broke into smaller groups with specific duties: entertainment, financial, program, publicity, corporate/small business, political, churches, youth, seniors, registration, and resources. By the end of December, the decision was made to enlarge the focus of the summit to "Crack, Family Addiction and AIDS". The AIDS epidemic was quickly spreading in minority communities and the Task Force felt a responsibility to address the issue in a public forum.

To publicize the summit, a newsletter was developed advertising the event with endorsements from elected officials and church and community leaders. Over 100,000 fliers were distributed. Information packets were sent home to parents of all

children in the Oakland schools. A series of press conferences, radio broadcasts and television appearances was held and community billboards highlighted the event.

Both the Oakland City Council and the Alameda County Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs contributed funding for the OCTF summit. Private corporations donated printing for over 5,000 programs.

Rainy weather did not stop the more than 6,000 people who attended the summit on March 10 and heard actor Louis Gossett, Jr. give the keynote speech. Other speakers and panelists included California Lieutenant Governor Leo T. McCarthy, Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, and several more community leaders. The Resource Fair had over 85 organization display booths. A total of 18 workshops were made available in morning and afternoon sessions. More than 75 health care organizations, drug rehabilitation programs and churches had representatives present to answer questions and offer help.

Entertainment varied from rap to gospel music and more than twelve different groups performed. Eighteen "unsung hero" awards were given out to senior citizens and "solution" not "problem" was the keyword that day; each workshop generated many ideas for the future that ranged from increased community backing for treatment programs to more anti-drug education and alternative activities for young people.

Armed with these "real solutions" from "real community people" the Oakland Crack Task Force expanded its goal of providing broad-based prevention and education to all Oakland citizens. Post summit activities have focused on identifying future goals.

ON TO THE FUTURE

Four broad goals have been identified:

1. Continuing to provide broad-based prevention and education services to Oakland citizens.

2. Continuing to develop and promote solutions to crack and other substances, family addiction and AIDS within every segment of the Oakland community.

3. Beginning to promote and advocate changes in social policies that will provide a better quality of life for all citizens.

4. Beginning to provide a network for collaboration of community groups, government agencies, law enforcement, private sector, religious institutions, and private individuals.

Four expanded major components include:

- Youth
- Education and Community
- Foster Care and Extended Family Members
- Advocacy

Under the Youth component, Task Force members will provide and/or expand programs and practices such as youth week-end "lock-ins"; youth support groups in a

variety of adolescent issues; and mentor and positive role model programs. The formation of a Youth Education Center is a high priority.

The Education and the Community component will continue monthly neighborhood seminars and provide family workshops. Members will continue to meet with the seven council Task Forces that were established as a result of the original seminars. This committee will develop a comprehensive referral network of community services and will continue to oversee the development, training, and formation of support groups. These groups are expected to grow. A second city-wide summit is planned for Spring, 1991.

The seminars and community outreach of the first year have demonstrated to the OCTF a critical need for increased services and support for senior and family caregivers. The Foster Care and Extended Family Members component plans to address this need and increase support groups for grandparents caring for second families as a result of their children affected by addiction. Parenting classes, referral services, and grandparent advocacy training is also planned.

The final component, Advocacy, is designed to move the Task Force in the direction of examining and changing public policy. Issues to be examined include, environmental risk factors, drug free zones, billboard advertisements of alcohol and tobacco, and neighborhood liquor store locations near schools. This committee will

advocate conditional use permits as they relate to the establishment of treatment centers in neighborhoods. Presentations on drug and alcohol issues are also planned as education for local elected officials.

The dictionary defines collaboration as "a process pooling resources to solve a set of problems two or more stakeholders cannot solve alone". Communities throughout the United States are all struggling with this process, especially in the field of substance abuse prevention and intervention. Everyone realizes that no one system can "do it alone"; too many existing efforts have failed and people realize the need for collaborative action.

Why did the collaborative action of the Oakland Crack Task Force have success when other similar groups have failed? Certain key characteristics of successful community action groups were evident in the OCTF from its inception.

Getting the entire group's input when concerned people come together to ask questions, explore problems, and offer suggestions on how to proceed can be a major enhancement to a Task Force. The sense of urgency, the absence of denial of a problem, and the respect and concern people had for one another all contributed to the group cooperation experienced by the OCTF.

People had an opportunity to share ideas and ask questions with no expectations in a safe and non-judgmental environment. The group was flexible in its agenda, and a partnership emerged where differences and issues resulted in a win-win situation for everyone. People distanced themselves from personal gripes, and were never allowed to taint the progress of the group. All members learned from and taught each other. This education was and continues to be the foundation on which everything rests.

Many task forces set goals and objectives that take years to complete. Members plan and plan and plan activities but never get to actually implement their ideas. Because they see no "action" they become discouraged and stop coming to meetings, and not much is accomplished.

The community seminars happened immediately -- two months after the OCTF was formed, over 400 people came to Beth Eden and learned new ways of responding to the drug crisis in their neighborhoods. Every Task Force member was given some task to do; from making food to distributing fliers to speaking at community meetings to organizing youth groups for entertainment. Everyone was able to contribute and feel that he or she contributed to its success.

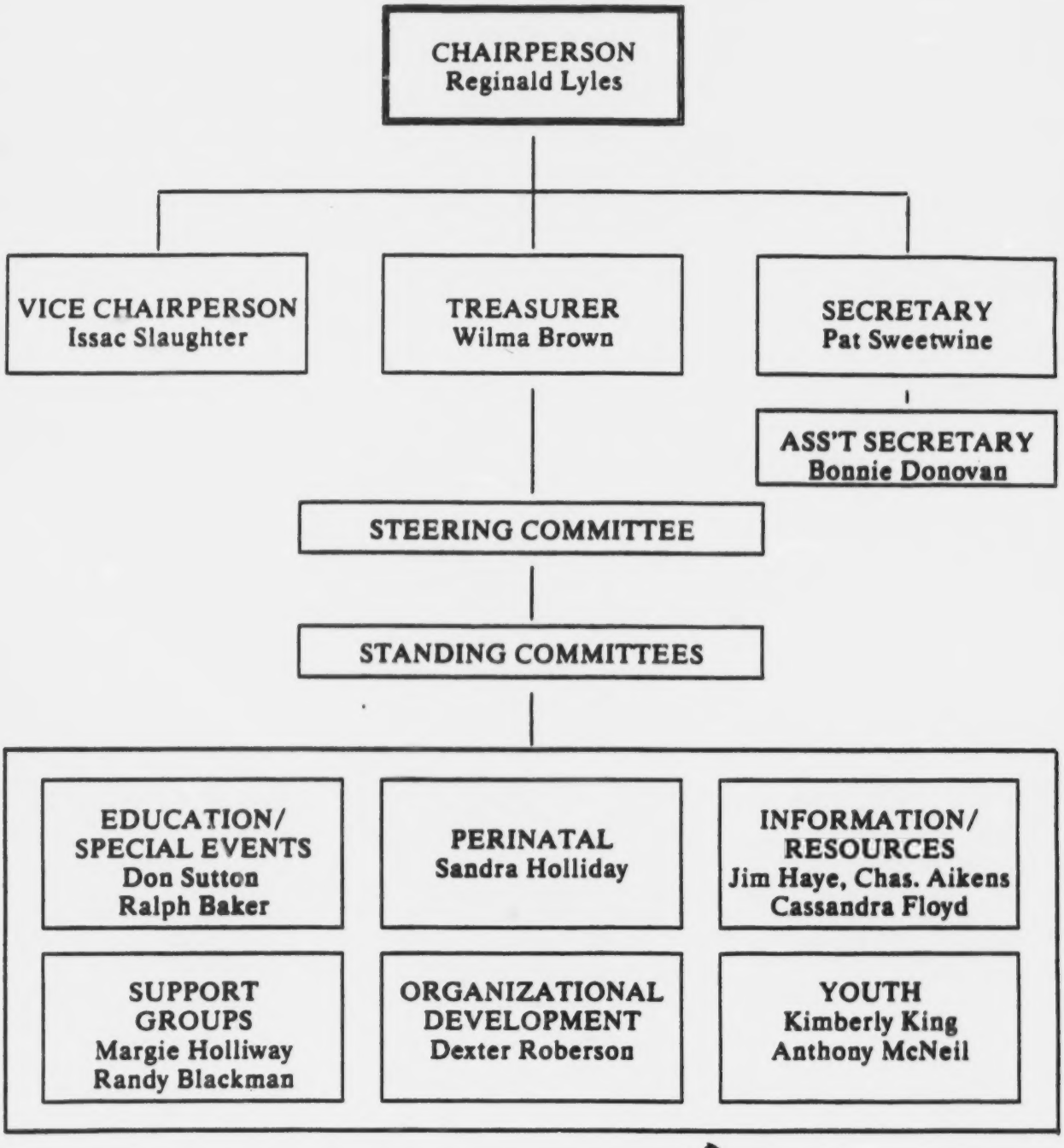
The seminars and all-city summit were realistic goals, given the resources and energy of the OCTF. Committee leaders delegated responsibilities and people had

clear, specific tasks to complete. The constant influx of members generated by the monthly seminars ensured the sharing of work and prevented organizational burnout; no one felt overwhelmed and overworked.

In conclusion, and perhaps most important, Task Force members wanted to be members. They were interested in what they were doing. They were both learning and teaching. They wanted to come to the meetings. And they liked what they were asked to do. Some call this empowerment. The members of the Oakland Crack Task Force call it progress.

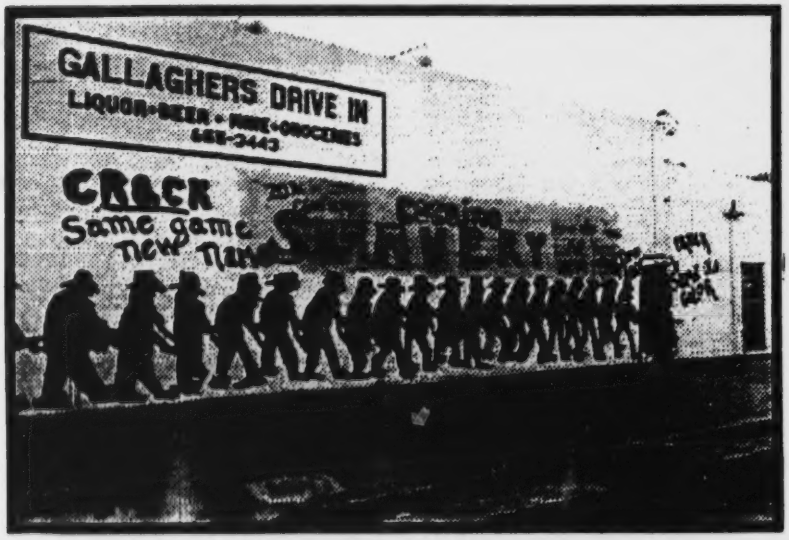
APPENDIX

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE



<u>YOU</u> CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM **CRACK**!



DATE: **SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1989 - 8:30 AM**

CHURCH: **BETH EDEN BAPTIST CHURCH**

ADDRESS: **10TH AND ADELINE STREETS, OAKLAND**

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE:

- WEST OAKLAND MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
- RICHARD ALLEN INSTITUTE
- OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL
- THE CITY OF OAKLAND
- WESTERN CENTER FOR DRUG FREE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITIES
- ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

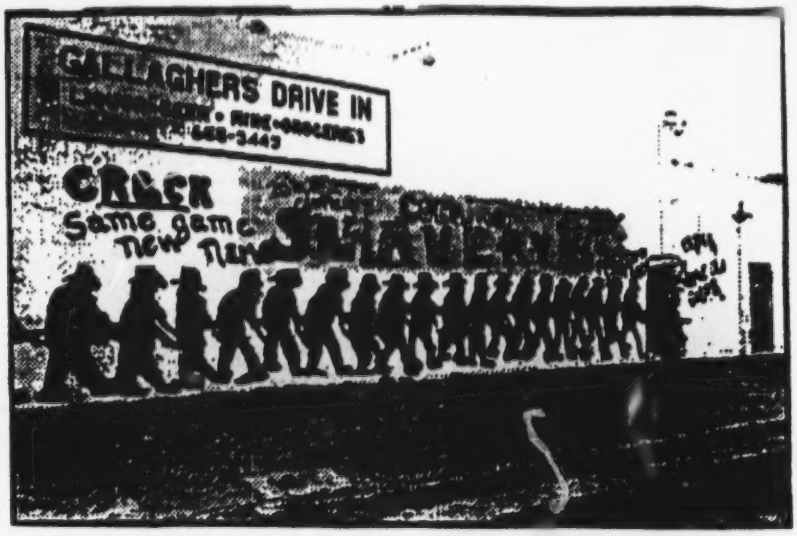
LEARN ABOUT:

- ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROGRAM
- CRACK: IT'S HISTORY, SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS AND TREATMENT
- CRACK BABIES
- AND MORE.....

<u>YOU</u> CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM **CRACK!**

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"



DATE: **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1989 - 8:30 AM**

CHURCH: **ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

ADDRESS: **8500 A STREET, OAKLAND**

LEARN ABOUT:

- **ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROBLEM**
- **CRACK: IT'S HISTORY, SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS AND TREATMENT**
- **CRACK BABIES**
- **CHILDREN ACTIVITES**
- **FREE LUNCH**

<u>SPECIAL GUEST BEN VEREEN - STAGE AND TV STAR</u>

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE:

West Oakland Mental Health Center - Richard Allen Institute - Oakland City Council - The City of Oakland
Western Center for Drug Free Schools and Communities - Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Department
West Oakland Community Development District - Jubilie West - Center for Black Concerns
Haight Ashbury Free Clinic - California Voice - Mandela House - Center for Attitudinal Healing
California Prevention Resource Center - Bay Area Black United Fund- Castlemont Corridor Project - East Oakland Youth Development Center - East Oakland Recovery Center

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM CRACK!

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1989, 8:30 - 4:00

LOCATION: DOWNS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADDRESS: 6026 IDAHO STREET, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

LEARN ABOUT:

- ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROBLEM
- CRACK: HISTORY, SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS AND TREATMENT
- CRACK BABIES
- THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FIGHTING ADDICTION
- CRACK AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE:

West Oakland Mental Health Center-Richard Allen Institute-Oakland City Council-Western Center for Drug Free Schools & Communities-Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Dept.-West Oakland Community Development District-Jubilee West- Center for Black Concerns-Haight Ashbury Free Clinic-California Voice-Mandela House-Center for Attitudinal Healing-California Prevention Resource Center-Bay Area Black United Fund-Castlemont Corridor Project-East Oakland Youth Development Center-East Oakland Recovery Center-Baptist Ministers Union-Aids Project of the East Bay-Downs Memorial Methodist Church-Taylor Memorial Methodist Church-St. Columbo Catholic Church-Beth Eden Baptist Church-Agape Youth Ministry-North Oakland Community Development District-House of Unity-East Oakland Sanctuary-First MorningStar Baptist Church-Friday Night Live-Glide Memorial Methodist Church-Alameda Board of Supervisors-Assemblyman Elihu Harris's office-Bay Area Black Media Coalition-True Vine Baptist Church-Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Interagency Council on Drugs-Tenderloin Self-Help Center-Healthy Infants Program, Highland Hospital-Allen Temple Baptist church

For further information call: 452-4791 or 465-1800

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM CRACK!

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1989, 8:30 A.M.

LOCATION: MASJIDUL WARITHEEN CULTURAL CENTER

ADDRESS: 1652 47TH AVENUE (CORNER 47TH & BOND-ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF HIGH STREET) OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

FREE LUNCH ***FREE CHILD CARE***

LEARN ABOUT:

- ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROBLEM
- CRACK: HISTORY, SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS AND TREATMENT
- CRACK BABIES
- THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FIGHTING ADDICTION
- CRACK AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE: West Oakland Mental Health Center-Richard Allen Inst.-Oakland City Council-Western Center for Drug Free Schools & Communities-Alameda Cty. Drug & Alcohol Dept.-West Oakland Community Development Dist.-Jubilee West- Center for Black Concerns-Haight Ashbury Free Clinic-California Voice-Mandela House-Center for Attitudinal Healing-Cal. Prevention Resource Center-Bay Area Black United Fund-Castlemont Corridor Project-East Oakland Youth Development Center-East Oakland Recovery Center-Baptist Ministers Union-Aids Project of the East Bay-Downs Mem. Methodist Church-Taylor Mem. Methodist Church-St. Columbo Catholic Church-Beth Eden Baptist Church-Agape Youth Ministry-North Oakland Community Development Dist.-House of Unity-East Oakland Sanctuary-First MorningStar Baptist Church-Friday Night Live-Glide Mem. Methodist Church-Alameda Board of Supervisors-Assemblyman Harris's Office-Bay Area Black Media Coalition-True Vine Baptist Church-Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Interagency Council on Drugs-Tenderloin Self-Help Center-Healthy Infants Program, Highland Hospital-Allen Temple Baptist Church-Masjidul Waritheen-Legal Services for Prisoners With Children-Greater Emmanuel Housing Develop. Corp.-Black Infant Mortality Forum-National Council of Negro Women-Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Social Workers

For further information call: 452-4791 or 465-1800

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM CRACK!

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 8:30 A.M.

LOCATION: MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ADDRESS: 1445 23RD AVE. (CORNER EAST 15TH ST.)
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

FREE LUNCH ***FREE CHILD CARE***

LEARN ABOUT:

- ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROBLEM
- CRACK: HISTORY, SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS AND TREATMENT
- WOMEN & CRACK AND CRACK BABIES
- THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FIGHTING ADDICTION
- CRACK AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE: West Oakland Mental Health Center-Richard Allen Institute-Oakland City Council-Western Center for Drug Free Schools & Communities-Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Dept.-West Oakland Community Development District-Jubilee West- Center for Black Concerns-Haight Ashbury Free Clinic-California Voice-Mandela House-Center for Attitudinal Healing-California Prevention Resource Center-Bay Area Black United Fund-Castlemont Corridor Project-East Oakland Youth Development Center-East Oakland Recovery Center-Baptist Ministers Union-Aids Project of the East Bay-Downs Memorial Methodist Church-Taylor Memorial Methodist Church-St. Columbo Catholic Church-Beth Eden Baptist Church-Agape Youth Ministry-North Oakland Community Development District-House of Unity-East Oakland Sanctuary-First MorningStar Baptist Church-Friday Night Live-Glide Memorial Methodist Church-Alameda Board of Supervisors-Assemblyman Elihu Harris's office-Bay Area Black Media Coalition-True Vine Baptist Church-Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Interagency Council on Drugs-Tenderloin Self-Help Center-Healthy Infants Program, Highland Hospital-Allen Temple Baptist Church-Masjidul Waritheen-Legal Services for Prisoners With Children-Greater Emmanuel Housing Develop. Corp.-Black Infant Mortality Forum-National Council of Negro Women-Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Social Workers-.Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Psychologists-Family Builders by Adoption-Narcotics Education League-Volunteers of America.-Native American Health Center-United Seniors of Oakland-Spanish-Speaking Unity Council .

For further information call: 430-1771 or 465-1800

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTEND A FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON RECLAIMING OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM CRACK!

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 8:30 A.M.

LOCATION: LAKESHORE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

ADDRESS: 3534 LAKE SHORE AVENUE (MANDANA ST.)

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

FREE LUNCH ***FREE CHILD CARE***

LEARN ABOUT:

- ADDICTION AS A FAMILY PROBLEM
- HELP FOR STRESSED-OUT GRANDPARENTS AND OTHER CAREGIVERS
- WOMEN & CRACK AND CRACK BABIES
- THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FIGHTING ADDICTION
- CRACK AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE: West Oakland Mental Health Center-Richard Allen Institute-Oakland City Council-Western Center for Drug Free Schools & Communities-Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Dept.-West Oakland Community Development District-Jubilee West- Center for Black Concerns-Haight Ashbury Free Clinic-California Voice-Mandela House-Center for Attitudinal Healing-California Prevention Resource Center-Bay Area Black United Fund-Castlemont Corridor Project-East Oakland Youth Development Center-East Oakland Recovery Center-Baptist Ministers Union-Aids Project of the East Bay-Downs Memorial Methodist Church-Taylor Memorial Methodist Church-St. Columbo Catholic Church-Beth Eden Baptist Church-Agape Youth Ministry-North Oakland Community Development District-House of Unity-East Oakland Sanctuary-First MorningStar Baptist Church-Friday Night Live-Glide Memorial Methodist Church-Alameda Cty. Board of Supervisors-Assemblyman Elihu Harris's office-Bay Area Black Media Coalition-True Vine Baptist Church-Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Interagency Council on Drugs-Tenderloin Self-Help Center-Healthy Infants Program, Highland Hospital-Allen Temple Baptist Church-Masjidul Waritheen-Legal Services for Prisoners With Children-Greater Emmanuel Housing Develop. Corp.-Black Infant Mortality Forum-National Council of Negro Women-Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Social Workers Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Psychologists-Minority Exchange Program-Narcotics Education League-Volunteers of Americca-Native American Health Center-United Seniors of Oakland-Spanish-Speaking Unity Council-Local 790-Oakland Community Organizations-San Antonio Community Development Corp.-Congressman Ron Dellums-Victory Outreach-Shilo Christian Fellowship-Mt. Calvary Baptist Church-Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church. For further information call: 430-1771 or 436-7755

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

RECLAIM OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR LIVES FROM CRACK!

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

This is a partial list of organizations which have participated in the Oakland *Crack* Task Force since its founding in April, 1989. In addition, hundreds of individual citizens have started the Oakland *Crack* Task Force on the road to success. But now the real work begins. Won't **YOU** come and join us? **YOU ARE NEEDED!**

LET'S GET BUSY!

West Oakland Mental Health Center - Richard Allen Institute - Oakland City Council - Western Center for Drug Free Schools & Communities - Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Dept. - West Oakland Community Development District-Jubilee West - Center for Black Concerns - Haight Ashbury Free Clinic - California Voice - Mandela House - Center for Attitudinal Healing - California Prevention Resource Center - Bay Area Black United Fund - Castlemont Corridor Project: Teens on Target - East Oakland Youth Development Center - East Oakland Recovery Center - Baptist Ministers Union - AIDS Project of the East Bay - Downs Memorial Methodist Church - Taylor Memorial Methodist Church - St. Columbo Catholic Church - Beth Eden Baptist Church - Agape Youth Ministry - North Oakland Community Development District - House of Unity - East Oakland Sanctuary - First MorningStar Baptist Church - Friday Night Live - Glide Memorial Methodist Church - Alameda Cty. Board of Supervisors - Assemblyman Elihu Harris's Office - Bay Area Black Media Coalition - True Vine Baptist Church - Pleasant Grove Baptist Church - Interagency Council on Drugs -Tenderloin Self-Help Center - Healthy Infants Program, Highland Hospital - Allen Temple Baptist Church - Masjidul Waritheen - Legal Services for Prisoners With Children - Greater Emmanuel Housing Develop. Corp.- Black Infant Mortality Forum - National Council of Negro Women - Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Social Workers - Mayor Lionel Wilson's office - Bay Area Ass'n. of Black Psychologists - Minority Adoption Exchange Program - Narcotics Education League - Volunteers of America - Native American Health Center - United Seniors of Oakland - Spanish-Speaking Unity Council - S.E.I.U. Local 790 - Oakland Community Organizations - San Antonio Community Development Corp. - Congressman Ron Dellums - Victory Outreach - Shilo Christian Fellowship - Mt. Calvary Baptist Church - Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church - G.R.O.U.P., Inc. - Bay Area Urban League - Planned Parenthood - Oakland Education Association - East Oakland Cocaine Recovery Center - Finding Alternative Directions - Salvation Army, Booth Memorial Center - Associated Real Property Brokers - Allied Fellowship - BEFP - Urban Health Study - Neighbors for Russo - Office of Council Member Wilson Riles - Richmond Rescue Mission - Adolescent Families Project - Alcohol Policy Network of Community Recovery Services - Councilman Leo Bazile's office - O.P.E.I.U. Local 29 - Catholic Charities - Black Women's Professional Association - Oakland Chamber of Commerce - East Bay Community Recovery Project - Assemblyman Tom Bates Office - East Oakland Church of God in Christ - Love Center Church - I.L.W.U. Local 6 - C.W.A Local 9415 - I.L.W.U International - KDIA Radio, - KJAM Radio - Alameda County Central Labor Council - W. C. Lester Christian Center (Seekers Finders Homes) - YWCA "Teens Talking to Teens" Program - "Just Say No", International - St. Luke Society - "A Precious Few" - Healthy Babies Project - APICO Second - 14th St. Clinic & Medical Group - A.P.R.I. Alameda County Chapter - Motivation Drug-Free Program.

For further information call: 451-1701 or 465-1800.

6,000 hear Gossett at crack summit

By Benny Evangelista
The Tribune

Addressing the audience at yesterday's anti-crack cocaine "summit" meeting, award-winning actor Louis Gossett Jr. said he owed his recovery from drug addiction to his family and to the "high" of a renewed faith in God.

"The crack problem is one that I believe God put on this Earth to get us together, in a very strange and ironic way," Gossett said. "Every little thing that has come back in my life is what God put there for me."

Pulling the community together to solve the problems of drug addiction was the idea behind the first annual "Crack Cocaine, Family Addiction and AIDS Summit," which organizers said drew almost 6,000 people to the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center and Laney College.

Gossett was the keynote speaker at the day long event sponsored by the Oakland Crack

See SUMMIT, Back Page

Summit

Continued from Page A-1

Task Force, Alameda County Department of Drugs & Alcohol and the mayor's office.

Other speakers and panelists included Lt. Gov. Leo T. McCarthy, Mayor Lionel Wilson and actress Alley Mills, who portrays the mother on television's "The Wonder Years."

"The whole purpose was to focus on solutions, to give people solutions that they can take back to their homes and their communities," said Donald Sutton, task force program coordinator.

Among the solutions proposed at the summit were increased community backing for fighting drugs and more anti-drug education for young people coupled with alternative activities and better role models.

Also at the summit were representatives from 75 health-care organizations, drug rehabilitation programs and churches offering help to drug users.

Out of the event will come similar discussions among 20 anti-drug support groups set up throughout Oakland, each one handling problems in ways tailored to their varying values, Sutton said.

Event coordinator Keith Carson said there was also a call for a petition to show community support for anti-drug efforts.

McCarthy pushed for people to sign his Safe Streets initiative, which would prevent the early release of repeat violent criminals and drug offenders from prison and raise state sales taxes one-half cent for four years to provide a $1.6 billion fund to pay for comprehensive school drug education programs and increased anti-drug law enforcement.

Comprehensive drug education programs now only reach about 15 percent of kindergarten through 12th-grade students, said McCarthy's daughter, Conna McCarthy, who gathered signatures outside the center.

Crowds packed 18 workshops on a variety of topics, including "Peer Pressure and Sex," "Crack, Pregnancy and its Effect on the Next Generation," and the "Role of the Church in Fighting Addiction."

Panelists at the "Modern Strategies in Prevention and Education" workshop said educating youth about drugs is one part of a "24-hour-a-day integrated" prevention effort.

But unless youth are presented with "healthy positive" alternative activities, "we're going to lose them," said moderator Ivy Cohen, executive director of Just Say No, International.

And Jerome Knox, Alameda County Department of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services program specialist, said prevention starts with parents as role models.

"When we start feeling stress, we can't go and get a martini, we can't go take a tranquilizer, we have to think up more creative ways," Knox said.

Retiring U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello said the estimated 15 million drug abusers nationwide far outnumbers the prison space available, meaning anti-drug efforts need to target those young enough to be "not influenced by this scourge."

"Solutions will not come with arming the police more forcefully," he said.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Gordon Baranco said, "The legal system is not set up to solve this problem," but that people should not be afraid to approach judges with solutions.

East Oakland's Frank Gilbert saw the summit as the "highlight" of his decade-long community campaign against drugs.

"I can see a light at the end of the tunnel as far as fighting drugs in the community," Gilbert said.

But Tienne Gray, 32, and Dana Collier, 25, who said they were once crack users and sellers, said the summit drew drug addicts who were only interested in seeing Louis Gossett in person. They criticized the event for not including current users who would have a greater effect by testifying to the horrors of their addiction.

Photos by Matthew J. Lee/The Tribune

Acter Louis Gossett Jr. talked about his recovery from drug addiction at crack summit meeting.

Thomas Hardy with daughters Crystal, left, and Kara attended Oakland summit meeting yesterday on crack problem.

Crack Summit March 10

By Bill Hughes
POST Staff Writer

Oakland has launched its uniquely broad-based community effort to rectify what city and Alameda County officials describe as the failure of the federal government in the war against drugs.

The recently-established Oakland Crack Task Force called a news conference in one of the city's most drug-infested areas Thursday to announce the details of the Oakland Crack and AIDS Summit to be held throughout the day on Saturday, March 10, at the Henry J. Kaiser Arena. A large number of community organizations will participate in the Summit which will feature diversified workshops on various aspects of the drug problem and its effects on crime and the AIDS epidemic. Keynote speaker at the Summit will be Lou Gossett, award-winning actor.

Mayor Lionel Wilson and County Supervisor Warren Widener led a panel of a half dozen speakers at the news conference which was held at Eighth and Adeline Streets against the backdrop of murals and slogans on a neighborhood building which express in angry and twisted syntax the frustration and despair in that particular region of West Oakland.

Reggie Lyles, Berkeley police officer and an Oakland resident who heads the Task Force, [illegible] also were presented by Keith Carson, Congressman Ron Dellums' administrative aide who will chair the Summit; Don Sutton, program coordinator for the Summit; Minnie Thomas, founder of Mandela House, and Mireya Vaamonde, manager-counselor for Mujeres Con Esperanza/Narcotics Education League.

Wilson and Widener led the assault on federal methodology in fighting drugs, and they agreed that local communities will now have to bear the burden in finding practicable solutions. Wilson, in fact, said that, despite city financial constraints, he will soon announce a new drug control program to be supported by city funding.

"We're hurting financially," Wilson said, "but it's a matter of priorities, even if we have to take money away from something else in order to make this work," Wilson said. "The people have spoken in poll after poll, and they consider drugs and crime the Number One problem in the city. They've told us how they want the money spent and we're going to spend it that way."

Widener took some wide swipes at the national Republican administration, opening his remarks with the contention that "Our president, Mr. Bush, has really failed. He has announced a war on drugs in which he has enlisted all law enforcement officers and the Department of Defense like he was waging a real war. He doesn't realize that drugs comprise a social problem. People use drugs because there's something wrong with their lives. We need to help them realize a greater sense of self-worth and self-esteem and help them turn their lives around. To do this we must emphasize education, prevention and treatment."

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 1

Wilson supported that kind of approach, pointing out that "Law enforcement officers across the country, as well as the ones here, have told anyone who is willing to listen that putting people in jails is not the way to deal with the problem. Jails and prisons are overcrowded now, and people are in and out of them before anyone knows what's happening. Anyone who doesn't realize that education, prevention and treatment provide the only effective approach is ignorant of the drug problem and doesn't understand it."

Widener pointed out that Governor Deukmejian had led the effort to build a county jail in Alameda County while at the same time cutting down on health care and social service programs. Widener urged restoration of all programs, particularly for children in and out of school, which would help the participants build self-esteem.

Lyles said the use of drugs was something akin to using poisoned candy, and he said the demand for drugs had reached a point where it has accounted for some $130 billion in drug dealers' profits.

Lyles also held an attractive small child on his lap and spoke hypothetically about her future.

"She's a beautiful child, bright, and well-created in the image of her maker," Lyles said. "But will her mind be fully developed when she grows up? She may be able to find a cure for AIDS or make some other noteworthy contribution to society. But are we going to help her do that, or will she fall victim to the drug epidemic? It's up to us."

The last speaker at the news conference was a woman who previously had been a drug addict, but now defeated her addiction. She emphasized that drug victims can't cure themselves without help, and she urged that more drug rehabilitation centers be financed and operated in the city.

"That is what helped me and it's the only thing that will really help others," she declared.

Photo by Donald Cunningham

(Left to right) Regina Chavaria, Mgr/Counselor, Mujeres Con Esperanza of the Narcotics Education League, Supervisor Warren Widener, Reginald W. Lyles, Chair of Oakland Crack Task Force, Mayor Lionel Wilson, Don Sutton, Program coordinator Oakland Crack Summit Keith Carson, Chair, Oakland Crack Summit and Minnie Thomas, Mandela House held a press conference to announce the upcoming Oakland Crack Summit.

Free Anti-Crack Seminar Saturday

The Oakland Crack Task Force will conduct a free seminar to educate the community about crack cocaine on Saturday, September 30, at Downs Memorial United Methodist Church, 6026 Idaho Street, in North Oakland.

The all-day seminar, which begins at 8:30 a.m., will offer workshops on such topics as "Addiction As A Family Problem," "Crack Babies," "Crack: History, Symptoms, Effects and Treatment," "Crack and Sexual Transmitted Diseases," and "The Role of the Church in Fighting Addiction."

This seminar is one in a continuing series sponsored by the Oakland Crack Task Force, a community-based group formed to fight the crack epidemic. The Task Force meets regularly at the West Oakland Mental Health Center, which also serves as the group's umbrella organization.

The Task Force is composed of organizations, churches, politicians, businesses, and a wide cross-section of individuals committed to tackling the problems of crack cocaine.

The group's main objective is to educate the community about crack cocaine and other forms of substance abuse. It also seeks to identify and access prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery resources.

"Drugs are not a part of our heritage," said Don Sutton, chairman of the education committee of the Oakland Crack Task Force and program coordinator for the Richard Allen Institute, a community-based organization committed to drug education and prevention.

Sutton is a veteran in the battle against drugs and a seasoned workshop leader.

Thousands Attend 'Crack Summit'

By Jasmine D. Williams

It began as a challenge from Rev. Cecil Williams, pastor of Glide Memorial Methodist Church in San Francisco. He asked participants at his national conference on crack cocaine entitled, "Death of a Race," in San Francisco last April, to return to their communities and start Crack Task Forces. Oakland did more than rise to the occasion. Not only did Oakland hold approximately 7 seminars around the city since July, on Saturday, reportedly over 6,000 persons turned out to participate in the Crack Cocaine, Family Addiction and AIDS Summit at the Henry J. Kaiser Center.

Featuring gospel music, rap music, educational workshops and keynote speaker, Louis Gossett, Jr., the purpose was to "bring the community back together to heal themselves," according to Keith Carson, the event's coordinator.

The day long summit began at 8 a.m. and lasted past 6 p.m. Among the workshops held were "Traditional and non-Traditional Treatment Models," "Crack, Pregnancy and Its Effect on the Next Generation," and Youth Presents "Peer Pressure and Drugs."

Donald Ledbetter, a 15-year old ninth grader at Edna Brewer Jr. High attended the conference with his mother. Concerned about practicing safe sex, he was found in the "Crack, AIDS and Other STD's" seminar. He said he was paying close attention to the video the presenters showed exposing myths about AIDS and stressing the importance of having protected sex.

"I want to make sure I don't catch anything," he said.

Minnie Thomas, director of the Mandela House, a long-term drug rehabilitation program for pregnant women, facilitated a packed seminar on "Crack, Pregnancy and Its Effect on the Next Generation." Emphasizing the importance of pre and post natal care for pregnant women using drugs, Thomas encouraged the audience not to give up hope saying, "I believe all things are possible through God."

Frankethia Johnson, 18, attended Youth Presents "Peer Pressure and Drugs." She felt the seminar was necessary because she has experienced the pressure of friends trying to encourage her to do things she didn't want to do.

She said, "Now I feel strong enough to stay away from those people who influence me to do bad things."

Carson, who works for Congressman Ronald V. Dellums (D-Ca), attended the conference in San Francisco last April and has been involved with the Oakland Crack Task Force from its inception. He said another purpose of the summit was to

Continued on Page 6

'Crack Summit'

Continued from page 1

develop ways to work together for long term solutions.

"I know," he said, "That some people are pessimistic but we can't give up hope."

Carson said two concrete goals would be accomplished by the Summit, one being a petition drive using all resources to collect names of Oakland residents to say "we are coming together to deal with our problems," and the other is the formation of Task Forces in each council district.

Carson added, "Jails are not the answer; better education and going to extra measures to educate, are. Is it a dream? Well, the Summit was a dream and now it's reality."

The culmination of the day was the keynote speaker, Oscar award-winning actor, Louis Gossett, Jr. Gossett spoke about the specific physical effects of cocaine. He likened crack to lethal poison, to a pulled linch-pin in a hand granade.

"Russian Roulette is safer," he said, "than smoking a base pipe."

Admitting his own drug use and saying how proud he was to be in recovery, he explained to the crowd that he felt God placed crack on earth to put everyone together in a strange way.

Gossett pointed out that it doesn't matter who you are or what you do.

"If you have any dark shadows in your soul, any dark secrets inside and you smoke crack, you will get hooked. Now I am not an expert," he said, "But I believe what I say."

Gossett implored the audience to talk to the "angels" he described as "people in recovery" because according to him, they know best how to help other addicts. He also stressed the importance of instilling in young people at young ages, information about the harm drugs cause to the mind, body and spirit.

"What we all need to beat the problem is extended family. Take care of one another," he said.

First 'crack summit' in Oakland draws 500

By Annie Nakao
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

OAKLAND — "What we have here is a crack attack — it's live, it's real and it's deadly."

Armed with plenty of civic support and even more determination, Oakland Crack Task Force coordinator Don Sutton and other community leaders vowed Saturday at the city's "crack summit" to enter the war on drugs.

In the first meeting of its kind in Oakland, some 500 participants sought to find a citywide strategy to solve the growing crack problem that has reached into homes and neighborhoods.

"I remember learning to get under our tables at school in case of an earthquake. Now, children are getting under tables to dodge bullets. There is something terribly wrong about that," said conference moderator Aleta Carpenter.

Calling for a "massive" public education campaign, the task force urged citizens of Oakland and the East Bay to get personally involved in the fight against drug abuse.

The conference, which featured actor Lou Gossett Jr. as a speaker, was attended by a wide range of politicians, including Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson.

Wilson, who has been criticized for his lack of action on the city's drug problems, recently unveiled anti-drug plans, including a crackdown on drug dealers and the creation of drug task forces in every council district.

The most human picture of crack's effects came from ex-drug addicts and those most affected by the epidemic — grandparents and other family members who are now the caretakers of their addicted children's youngsters.

At a workshop focusing on this growing phenomenon, an Oakland schoolteacher told of discovering great-grandmothers and great-aunts in their 70s and 80s caring for infants.

Praise for Oakland's anti-drug warriors

Brenda Payton

Thank goodness and hallelujah for our community anti-drug warriors. If it weren't for their tireless, determined and innovative efforts, we might be a district of Colombia (and I don't mean the nation's capital) by now.

Last week, three different Oakland community groups forged new ground in the battle against drugs. Oakland Community Organizations, probably one of the nation's first community groups to recognize the seriousness and pervasiveness of the drug problem in urban America, was honored at the White House (and I do mean in the nation's capital) for its work.

JoAnna Lougin, OCO president, reported that President Bush shook her hand, congratulated the activists and called them heroes. At the meeting, Lougin discussed Oakland's Beat Health program and OCO's practice of canvassing individuals to identify community concerns.

Pretty impressive. But did our local officials utter a word of congratulations to OCO? Based on the public statements of Oakland's elected leaders, you wouldn't have known that the work in Oakland had been noticed and honored by the nation's president.

In fact, before the meeting with Bush, Lougin and OCO tried to meet with Mayor Wilson so they could present a comprehensive city anti-drug plan at the White House. They couldn't get an audience.

"It was our hope," Lougin wrote, "that our elected leaders would spend the same time and energy to develop a plan to deal with the drug epidemic as they have spent to develop the multimillion-dollar deal to bring back the Raiders or the multimillion-dollar deal to develop a retail center." So much for hope.

For Wilson's part, he said he has been working on a comprehensive anti-drug plan that he will reveal this week and he didn't want OCO to take it to Washington before he could present it locally.

I don't want to throw water on the fire before it's even started, but based on Wilson's brief summary of the plan, I wouldn't get too excited about a tough new city approach. What he described was basically the coordination of the existing community efforts that have developed over the years in the vacuum of city leadership. In other words, another task force approach, another layer of bureaucracy that doesn't add anything new to the anti-drug arsenal and doesn't even contribute direct resources.

I don't know about you, but from what I've seen, crack dealers, addicts and the variety of social and economic circumstances that create them don't seem much affected by meetings. Then, maybe, if they were invited to the meetings, the approach might work.

But what do you expect? The drug plague had been devastating Oakland for at least four years when the city council got around to recognizing the drug epidemic as a top priority. It always helps to be in touch with the city you represent. Now, almost two years later, the mayor comes up with a plan that basically shuffles the existing cards. Then, I suppose, that's right on schedule.

Where is the leadership in this town? Does anyone have a clue?

Is it a principle of science or social organization that someone or something will always rush in to fill a void? Enter the feisty Thermal Street Home Alert group and other residents who have suffered near the MacArthur Boulevard crack-infested motels.

Last week, 15 neighbors filed a small claims action against the owner of the Mission Motel, seeking $2,000 apiece for the emotional and mental anguish caused by the drug dealing and prostitution allegedly associated with the motel.

The strategy of filing small claims was successful in closing crack houses in San Francisco and Berkeley, but this is the first time it has been used against the troublesome motels in Oakland. I ran into the Thermal Street residents this summer and if anyone can get the motels cleaned up, they can. They are close-knit, resourceful and self-reliant, realizing long ago they couldn't look to city officials for leadership. They are a great model of community activism.

And capping off an impressive week of community accomplishment, the Oakland Crack Task Force sponsored its First Annual Crack Cocaine Family Addiction and AIDS Summit. The summit featured Award-winning Actor Lou Gossett as the keynote speaker, probing workshops on family, health and prevention issues and inspiring entertainment by a number of local choirs.

Thank goodness and hallelujah for our community anti-drug warriors. Where would we be without them?

Brenda Payton writes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

COMMUNITY SEMINAR AGENDA

YOU

CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THE OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

PRESENTS

"DRUGS ARE NOT A PART OF OUR HERITAGE"

Saturday, December 16, 1989 @ 8:30am
Masjidul Waritheen Cultural Center
1652 47th Avenue
Oakland, CA

West Oakland Mental Health Center - Richard Allen Institute - Oakland City Council - The City of Oakland - Western Center for Drug Free Schools and Communities - Alameda County Drug and Alcohol Department - West Oakland Community Development District - Jubilee West - Center for Black Concerns - Haight Ashbury Free Clinic - California Voice - Mandela House - Center for Attitudinal Healing - California Prevention Resource Center - Bay Area Black United Fund - Healthy Infants Program - Taylor Memorial Church - Truevine Baptist Church - Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Castlemont Corridor Project-East Oakland Youth Development Center-East Oakland Recovery Center-Baptist Ministers Union-Downs Memorial Methodist Church-St. Colombo Catholic Church-Beth Eden Baptist Church-Agape Youth Ministry-North Oakland Community Development District-House of Unity-East Oakland Sanctuary-First Morning Star Baptist Church-Friday Night Live-Glide Memorial Methodist Church-Alameda County Board of Supervisors-Assemblyman Elihu Harris's Office-Bay Area Black Media Coalition-Pleasant Grove Baptist Church-Interagency Council on Drugs-Tenderloin Self Help Center-Allen Temple Baptist Church-Masjidul Waritheen-Legal Services for Prisoners with Children-Greater Emmanuel Housing Development Corporation-Black Infant Mortality Forum-National Council of Negro Women-Bay Area Assoc. of Black Social Workers-Bay Area Assoc. of Black Psychologists-Family Builders by Adoption-Narcotics Education League-Volunteers of America-Native American Health Center-United Seniors of Oakland-Spanish Speaking Unity Council-Local 790-Oakland Community Organizations-San Antonio Community Development Corporation-Congressman Ron Dellums-Victory Outreach-Shilo Christian Fellowship

AGENDA

8:30 - 9:00am	REGISTRATION
9:00 - 10:30	INTRODUCTION OF MODERATOR *Don Sutton, Co-Chair Special Events & Education Committee, Crack Task Force*
	MODERATOR *Donna Masters* *KSOL Radio*
	INVOCATION *Hamad Karim*
	NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM *Congregation*
	OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM *Reginald Lyles, Chairperson, Oakland Crack Task Force*
	"THE CRACK ATTACK" *Donald Sutton*

MORNING SPEAKERS

Honorable Lionel Wilson	*Mayor City of Oakland*
Assemblyman Elihu Harris	*California State Assembly*
Carter Gilmore	*City Councilperson*

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE
Iman Faheem Shuaibe

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Sheryl Walton

CONCURRENT MORNING WORKSHOPS
10:30-12:00 noon

PEER PRESSURE AND DRUG USE
Facilitators: *Luci Mullins, Michael Ross*
Discussants: *Muhammad Ross, Alba Marino, Mary Turner, Tricia Penny, Tasheila Fletcher*

MEN: PROBLEMS, POTENTIALS, SOLUTIONS
Facilitator: *Kevin Henderson*
Discussants: *Carol Richardson, Faheem Shuaibe, Nazim Rashid*

GRANDPARENTS, FOSTERPARENTS: UNDER SEIGE
Facilitator: *Pat Sweetwine*
Discussants: *Yusuf Rasheed, Sandra Nathen, Sandra Andrews, Kim Lynch*

CRACK AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES
Facilitators: *Denise Gums, Lewis Ashley*
Discussants: *Lisa Hodge, Kenny Hall, Rev. Tony Dunbar, Larry Robinson*

12:00 - 12:15	PRAYER TIME
12:15 - 1:00	LUNCH
1:00 - 1:45	LUNCHEON PROGRAM Presented by the Oakland Crack Task Force Youth Committee

CONCURRENT AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS
1:45 - 3:00pm

WOMEN'S ISSUES AND CRACK BABIES
Facilitator: *Minnie Thomas*
Discussants: *Donnna Fabella, Sandra Holliday, Shirley Shabazz, Zakiya Sombura*

THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FIGHTING ADDICTION
Facilitators: *Rev. James Sturkey, Derrick Hollis*
Discussants: *Sister Marie DePorres Taylor, Rev. Shirley Johnson, Erma Ross, Safa Hassan*

ADDICTION: A FAMILY PROBLEM
Facilitators: *Donald Sutton, Ann-Andrea Nelson*
Discussants: *Hassa Rasheed, Sister Sallie Carey, Bruce Kennedy*

CRACK, CRIME, LAW AND POLITICS
Facilitators: *Ellen Barry, Hamin Muwwakil*
Discussants: *Dominic Pinkney, Lt. Calvin Handy, Robert McGuire, Iman Abu Qadir Al-amin*

3:00 - 3:10 AFTERNOON BREAK

3:10 - 4:30 CONCLUDING SESSION

SOLUTIONS: TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, PREVENTION & ECONOMICS
Facilitator: *Donald Sutton*

Focus: **Where do we go from here?**

Panelists: *Luci Mullins, Minnie Thomas, Pat Sweetwine, Denise Gums, Rev. James Sturkey & Ellen Barry*

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

BENEDICTION

SPEAKERS

Ralph Baker	*Co-Chair, Special Events Committee, OCTF*
Ellen Barry	*Legal Services for Prisoners with Children*
Sister Sallie Carey	*Truevine Baptist Church*
Donna Masters	*KSOL Radio*
Hamad Karim	*Masjidul Waritheen*
Carol Richardson	*Oakland Community Development District*
Carter Gilmore	*Oakland City Council*
Randy Geford	*Youth Committee, Oakland Crack Task Force*
Iman Faheem Shuaibe	*Masjidul Waritheen*
Kenneth Hall	*Ark of Love*
Yusuf Rasheed	*Masjidul Waritheen*
Lt. Calvin Handy	*Berkeley Police Department*
Elihu Harris	*California State Assembly*
Sandra Nathan	*Director Office of Aging, City of Oakland*
Kevin Henderson	*Oakland Crack Task Force*
Kim Lynch	*Bananas*
Eric Hollis	*Student, First Morning Star Baptist Church*
Derrick Hollis	*Student, First Morning Star Baptist Church*
Rev. Shirley Johnson	*Allen Temple Baptist Church*
Jerome Knox	*Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Programs*
Reginald Lyles	*Chairperson, Oakland Crack Task Force*
Sister Sallie Carey	*Truevine Baptist Church*
Luci Mullins	*Planned Parenthood*
Hamin Muwwakil	*Student Oakland High School*
Bruce Kennedy	*Fremont High School*
Robert McGuire	*Special Agent, DEA*
Ann-Andrea Nelson	*Student, Oakland Public School*
Don Perata	*Supervisor, Alameda County*
Dominic Pinkney	*Alameda County Public Defender*
Hassen Rasheed	*Masjidul Waritheen*
Sister Marie DePorres Taylor	
Rev. Shirley Johnson	*Allen Temple Church*
Safa Hassan	*Masjidul Waritheen*
Erma Ross	*Center of Hope*
Larry Robinson	*Alternative Therapy*
Nazim Rashid	*Tenderloin Self Help Center*
Dr. Issac Slaughter	*Director, West Oakland Mental Health Center*
Lisa Hodge	*Allen Temple AIDS Project*
GeJuanna Smith	*Youth Committee, Oakland Crack Task Force*
Rev. Harvey Smith	*Baptist Ministers Union*

CITY-WIDE SUMMIT
PROGRAM AGENDA

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

March 10, 1990

'Let's Get Busy'

Registration ..... 8:00 to 9:00 AM

9:00 to 9:30
MINI-CONCERT
True Vine Baptist Church Choir
Terence Kelly, Director

9:30 to 11:30
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Presentation of Colors ..... Castlemont High School Color Guard

Opening Remarks
Introduction of Moderator ..... Keith Carson, Chairperson
Summit Committee, Oakland Crack Task Force

Moderator ..... Aleta Carpenter, Vice President and General Manager,
Radio Station KDIA

Scripture ..... Rev. Douglass Fitch, Pastor
Downs Memorial United Methodist Church

Prayer ..... Father Jay Matthews, Pastor
St. Benedict's Catholic Church

Welcome ..... Lionel Wilson, Mayor, City of Oakland

History and Purpose ..... Dr. Isaac Slaughter, M.D., Director
West Oakland Health Center, Mental Health Department

Musical Selection ..... Helen Stephens and the Voices of Christ

Homebase ..... Kaleidovision

The Crack Attack ..... Donald Sutton, Consultant
Program Coordinator, Oakland Crack Task Force

Community Response
To The AIDS Epidemic ..... Rev. Yvette Flunder, Associate Minister, Director
Ark of Love, Love Center Church

Personal Revelations ..... Patricia Rodgers, Mandela House

Musical Selection ..... First Morning Star Baptist Church Choir

Greetings and Resolutions ..... Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy; Assemblyman Elihu Harris;
Supervisor Don Perata; Supervisor Warren Widener

Youth Speaks ..... Taylor Walton, Oakland Crack Task Force

Summit Instructions ..... Ralph Baker, Co-Chair
Special Events and Education Committee, Oakland Crack Task Force

Musical Selection ..... First Morningstar Baptist Church Choir

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

1:00 to 2:30 PM

Workshops

SEEKING SOLUTIONS through COMMUNICATION

Workshops are at Laney College — across the street

A. **Youth Presents: "Peer Pressure and Sex"** ..... B Complex, Room 210

Facilitators: ..... Luci Mullins, Education Specialist, Planned Parenthood
Mylena Foo, Health Educator, YWCA

Panelists: ..... Jade Countee; Bihn Phan; Jennifer Johns
Mary Turner; Torina England; Kobia West

B. **Crack, AIDS and Other STD's** ..... B Complex, Room 265

Facilitators: ..... Phebia Richardson, Executive Director; Richard Allen Institute
Louis Ahsley, Director; Glide AIDS Program

Panelists: ..... Reverend Yvette Flunder; Kenneth Hall;
Denise Gums; Aaron Crutison; Carl Lester

C. **"Traditional and non-traditional Treatment Models"** ..... E Complex, Room E. 200

Facilitators: ..... Brenda Mobley, Community Activist,
Member of the Oakland Crack Task Force

Panelists: ..... Sam Murray; Gregory Senegal; Gretchen Blais; Dr. Frank Staggers;
Kemil Jahi; Jazim Rashid; Mary Wright

D. **"Crack Cocaine and Its Effect on Grandparents, Foster Care, Adoption and Other Caregivers"** ..... A Complex, Room 273

Facilitator: ..... Celestine Green, Aide to Supervisor Don Perata

Panelists: ..... Randy Blackman; Lydia Bejareno; Marjorie Holloway;
Zakiya Sonburu; Letha Barnett

E. **"Crack, Pregnancy and Its Effect on the Next Generation"** ..... D Building, Room D200

Facilitator: ..... Minnie Thomas, Executive Director, Mandela House

Panelists: ..... Dr. Richard Fulroth; Mildred Thompson; Belva Butcher,
Dr. Barbara Staggers; Joy Barnes; Mandela House Recovering Person, Jean Watson

F. **"Modern Strategies in Prevention and Education"** ..... E Complex, Room 255

Facilitator: ..... Ivy Cohen, Executive Director, "Just Say NO International"

Panelists: ..... Dr. Jon Schiller; Bruce Marcus; Colette Winlock; Jerome Knox
Hugh Vasquez; Officer Jerry Green; Dorothy Wilson; Chris Lopez

G. **"The Media: Negative Images and Power of Influences"** ..... E Complex, Room 201

Facilitator: ..... Charles Aikens, Reporter, The California Voice

Panelists: ..... Rudy Marshall; Brenda Payton; Perry Lang; Charles Hardy;
Pearl Stewart; Ricki Stevenson; Alley Mills — The Wonder Years (ABC)

H. **Oakland Police Department "Beat Health"** ..... A Complex, Room 233

Facilitator: ..... Sergeant Bob Crawford

I. **"Drugs in The Workplace: Employees Responsibilities and Rights Employers Responsibilities and Rights"** ..... A Complex, Room 239

Facilitator: ..... Larry Hendel, Field Representative, United Public Employees, Local 790

Panelists: ..... Karege Hart; Larry A. Williams; Terry Day; Ellen Reims
..... Counseling Room, E Complex, Room 211

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

2:30 to 2:45 PM
Break

2:45 to 4:00 PM
Workshops

J. **"Addiction and Its Effect on the Family"** ..... B Complex, Room 265

Facilitator: ..... Regina Chavarin, Executive Director, Narcotics Educational League

Panelists: ..... Hassan Rasheed; Willie Porter; Dr. Catherine E. Main, PhD.; Benjamin May

K. **"Racism, Economics and Crack Cocaine"** ..... E Complex, Room 201

Facilitator: ..... Ramona Tascoe-Burris, M.D., Medical Director, Prison Health Services, North County Jail

Panelists: ..... Dezi Woods-Jones; Toni Cook; Troy Duster; Leo Bazile; Harold Mingo; Dr. Wesley Clarke, M.D.

L. **"The Role of the Church in Fighting Addiction"** ..... E Complex, Room 254

Facilitator: ..... Rev. James Sturkey, Associate Minister, New Hope Baptist Church

Panelists: ..... Rev. Newton Carey, Jr.; Rev. Tony Sepulveda Iman Faheem Shuabe; Rev. Donald Epps; Rev. Toni Dunbar

M. **Youth Presents "Peer Pressure and Drugs"** ..... B Complex, Room 210

Facilitators: ..... Afriye Quamina, Director, Omega Boys Club — Oakland, CA Najmah Rasheed, Student; Masjidul Waritheen

Panelists: ..... Abu Wilson; Michael Thompson; Asia Taylor; Stacey Dorsey; Karie Washington; Mike D.; Robin C.; Joel H.; Merritt Slepin

N. **"Legal Response to the Crack Problem"** ..... A Complex, Room 273

Facilitator: ..... Ellen Berry, Director, Prisoners with Children

Panelists: ..... Chief George Hart; John C. Burris; Cole Powell; Honorable Gordon Baranco; Heather Campbell; U.S. Attorney General Joseph Russoniello; Dr. Isaac Slaughter; Ron Chun

O. **"Home Alert, A Community Necessity"** ..... A Complex, Room 239

Facilitator: ..... Lt. Fred Peoples, Oakland Police Department

P. **"Modern Strategies in Prevention and Education"** ..... E Complex, Room 255

Facilitator: ..... Ivy Cohen, Executive Director, "Just Say NO, International"

Panelists: ..... Dr. Jon Schiller; Bruce Marcus; Colette Winlock; Jerome Knox Alley Mills; Hugh Vasquez; Officer Jerry Green; Dorothy Wilson; Chris Lopez

Q. **"Beat Health"** ..... A Complex, Room 233

Facilitator: ..... Sargeant Bob Crawford, Oakland Police Department

R. **"Crack, Pregnancy and Its Effect on the Next Generation"** ..... D Building, Room 200

Facilitator: ..... Minnie Thomas, Executive Director, Mandela House

Panelists: Dr. Richard Fulroth; Mildred Thompson; Belva Butcher; Dr. Barbara Staggers; Joy Barnes; Jean Watson; Mandela House Recovering Women

4:00 to 4:15
Break

MacClymond's High School Drill Team
J.J. Roxx — It's My Time

OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Resource Fair and Entertainment
ARENA and HALLWAYS

- **Gino B. and the Posse — Freebase Ain't Free**
- **Spirit Theater of Dance**
- **John Turk and Buddy Connors**
- **Lolita**
- **The Wild Boys**
- **Camile Hopkins**
- **Jarvis Larue**
- **Oakland High School ROTC Drill Team**

SECOND GENERAL SESSION
4:15 to 6:00 PM

Introduction of Moderators ..... Sheryl Walton, Co-Chair
Youth Committee, Oakland Crack Task Force

Moderators ..... Donna Masters, Public Affairs Director, Radio Station, KSOL
..... Burgundy Johnson, Student
Grass Valley School, Member - Youth Committee
Oakland Crack Task Force

Musical Selection ..... East Bay Community Chair

Introduction of Guest Speaker ..... Barbara Lee, Consultant
and former Aide to Congressman Ron Dellums

Guest Speaker ..... Louis Gossett, Jr., Star of Stage and Screen

Presentation of "Unsung Heroes" Awards ..... Gayle Quinn and Ralph Baker

Poetry Reading ..... Teretta Mikell

Oakland Crack Task Force
PRESENTS

"Youth Are Talking"

SPECIAL PRESENTATION by YOUTH COMMITTEE
of OAKLAND CRACK TASK FORCE

Moderated by Donna Masters and Burgundy Johnson

Special Guests

INF: Lasalle Adkins; Charles Outing; Ramone Tysinger
Ballet Folklorico de Centro de Tuventud
Petite and Elite Stacey Dorsey Taylor Walton
East Oakland Youth Development Center, African Youth Dancers Talina Mayes Amy Tran
Jerome Newton Marie Kim Corey Johnson Nicole Dukes
Emma Garcia Love Center Choir Art Bossinere Lavonda Curley Asia Taylor

Closing Prayer ..... Rev. Frank Pinkard, Pastor
Evergreen Baptist Church